

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application or previous response to office action:

1. (Currently Amended) A prospects harvesting system, maintained by an application service provider, for providing contact data for prospective customers of a product or service provided by a product/service provider, comprising:

a web crawler process operable to receive parameter data to locate participant-based text sources selected from the group of: newsgroups, discussion forums, mailing lists, and web sites;

a web archive database for storing text sources retrieved by the crawler;

a harvester process for searching the web archive database for primary contact data for at least one prospective contacts of the product/service provider; and

a reverse lookup process for receiving contact data from the harvester process and for performing a reverse lookup from the contact data;

wherein the reverse lookup is performed by using the primary contact data in a search query to obtain ancillary contact data about the same prospective contact; and

wherein the reverse lookup is performed by accessing data sources other than the text file containing the primary contact data;

a staging database for storing the primary and ancillary contact data; and

a web server for providing access to the staging database via a web browser.

2. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 1, further comprising a value-add process that links the prospective contacts to related business information.

3. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 2, wherein the value-add process operates on line by accessing the Internet.

4. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 2, wherein the value-add process operates off line.

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 1, wherein the reverse lookup is performed offline.

7. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 1, wherein the reverse lookup is performed online by accessing the Internet.

8. (Original) The system of Claim 1, further comprising an indexer process that indexes documents retrieved by the crawler process for access by the harvester process.

9. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 8, further comprising a mailer process for scripting correspondence to the prospective customers.

10. (Currently Amended) A method, performed by an ~~information~~ application service provider, of providing contact data for prospective customers of a product or service provided by a product/service provider, comprising the steps of:

receiving customer parameter data from the product/service provider;

using a crawler to locate Internet participant-based text sources conforming to the customer parameter data, the text sources selected from the group of: newsgroups, discussion forums, mailing lists, and web sites;

storing the text sources in an archive database;

receiving a request from the product/service provider for customer lead information;

accessing the archive database to locate documents containing at least some of the lead information, thereby identifying a contact and obtaining at least one item of primary contact data associated with the contact; and

performing a reverse lookup of the contact via the Internet to obtain additional contact data;

wherein the reverse lookup is performed by using the primary contact data in a search query to obtain ancillary contact data about the same prospective contact;

wherein the reverse lookup is performed by accessing data sources other than the text file containing the primary contact data;

storing the primary and ancillary contact data in a staging database; and
providing access to the staging database via a web server and a web browser.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 10, further comprising the step of using a value-add process to link the prospective customers to related business information.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11, wherein the step of using a value-add process is performed on line.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11, wherein the step of using a value-add process is performed off line.

14. (Canceled)

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15. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 10, wherein the reverse lookup is performed offline.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 10, wherein the reverse lookup is performed online by accessing the Internet.

17. (Original) The method of Claim 10, further comprising the step of using an indexer process to index documents retrieved by the crawler process for access by the harvester process.

18. (Original) The method of Claim 10, further comprising the step of using a mailer process to prepare scripted correspondence to the prospects.

19. (New) The system of Claim 1, wherein the primary contact data is an email address and the reverse lookup is for ancillary contact data associated with that email address.

20. (New) The system of Claim 1, wherein the primary contact data is a name of a prospective customer and the reverse lookup is for ancillary contact data associated with that name.

21. (New) The system of Claim 1, wherein the ancillary contact data is at least one item of data from the following group: email address, web site address, or name.

22. (New) The system of Claim 7, wherein the reverse lookup accesses at least one website.

23. (New) The method of Claim 10, wherein the primary contact data is an email address and the search query is for contact data associated with that email address.

C³ 24. (New) The method of Claim 10, wherein the primary contact data is a name of a prospective customer and the reverse lookup is for ancillary contact data associated with that name.

25. (New) The method of Claim 10, wherein the ancillary contact data is at least one item of data from the following group: email address, web site address, or name.

26. (New) The method of Claim 16, wherein the reverse lookup accesses at least one website.
